

TASMANIA'S BEST Contd:

December 14, 1987. Deddington Rd.

A very strange event. A lone motorist told of lights passing over his car and landing on the road ahead. At the same time his car lights and motor all failed. With a brilliant white elliptical object 15m ahead on the road he left his car to hide behind bushes. He claims that his car was dragged up the road towards the object, prior to another vehicle arriving.

The second motorist though there had been a road accident until alerted by the witness. Together they heard a high pitched whine as the object took off and curved away rapidly into the southern sky.

The Centre interviewed the witness but the second motorist remained anonymous. The sighting location was visited but no traces could be located although the road had recently been repaired.

February 14, 2005. Melton Mowbray. A recent event which was given exhaustive investigation. Three witnesses encountered a domed object over the roadside paddock. It had a brilliant beam below which illuminated the area like day. The witnesses say that they appeared to have taken longer than normal for the trip. However, on the following evening the Centre had 5 similar UFO sightings in a confined area only a few kilometres to the south.

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TUFOIC REPORT 2006

January 2007 Edition 100

YEAR IN REVIEW 2006

A forgettable year for the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre. The early promise in the New Year of sightings ahead soon dried up in a manner similar to the Australian drought. A total of 5 unidentified cases for the year with only 1 occurring after February made for a sorry tale.

To make matters worse the decline in attendance at meetings brought the only result, no more meetings.

The Centre will still hold its Annual Meeting with the provision that other meetings will be called if UFO events increase in intensity.

The Centre aims to establish an e-mail to interested members keeping them posted on the latest statistics and events of note. Hopefully all is not lost as members will continue also to receive the Ufologist magazine.

In keeping with the drop in unexplained reports the total of investigations has also fallen. However, the Centre has continued to provide a service to the public explaining what they have seen in the night sky. Media coverage was virtually

confined to the month of February when a video of an object in the morning sky surfaced.

The culprit turned out to be Venus low in the east, gaining elevation and being visible (and videoed) in breaks through the clouds.

The Centre fielded calls from the north of the state, but the publicity rather than uncovering more activity seemingly killed of the UFO for the rest of the year.

The Centre has continued its association with the Australian UFO Research Network and at times follows up on reports to the Network on their Australia wide UFO Hotline

During the year a website appeared claiming a number of sensational Australia wide sightings complete with video coverage. It was finally established that a grant from the Australian Film Council had been received by a budding producer. In turn bogus data had been displayed on the internet as genuine events.

The project was to gauge the response by the UFO groups/public? We feel that the private UFO groups would be

more deserving of a grant to cover their expenses and research.

TUFOIC STATISTICS 2006	
Unidentified	5
Astronomical	27
Aircraft	3
Satellites	9
Balloon Hoaxes	17
Others	7
TOTAL	68

TUFOIC 2007

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OBJECTIVES OF TUFOIC

- To investigate Tasmanian UFO reports.
- To publish details of UFO reports and maintain a UFO database.
- To distribute authentic information to members and fellow UFO organisations.
- Membership is open to all who support the aims of the Centre.

Items may be quoted from this Newsletter provided TUFOIC is credited

Official Newsletter of the Tasmanian UFO Investigation Centre. Founded in 1965

TASMANIAN SIGHTINGS 2006 2006 January 3rd. 1.35am Bass Strait

The witness together with his son was travelling to Tasmania on Spirit One. They were going to Launceston for a cricket carnival. He heard on the PA system that the sister vessel Spirit Two would be passing en-route to Victoria. The witness decided to go up early on deck and view the night sky and sea.

He took up a position near the stern of the vessel with his Sony Digi Cam handy to film the other ferry boat. However, he noticed a bright light in the north-west sky. He puzzled briefly over what the light could be, and then to his surprise in a matter of seconds it was zooming up near the stern of Spirit One. At first he was too amazed to do anything but look at a large triangular shape with lights that was hanging in the air some 3-400m distant.

The wider side of the triangle was nearest to the witness with the object tilted up at about a 30 degree angle. There was a row of 5 white lights on the leading edge of the object with a double row of lights around the edge on the underside. No sound could be heard at any stage of the sighting. The size of the object was not easy to estimate, it gave the impression of

being large and was much bigger the apparent size of a full moon.

The witness suddenly remembered his camera, and as he headed toward the ship's rail he took the camera out of his bag.

TASMANIA'S BEST Contd:

May 26, 1975. Lake Sorell.

Two witnesses noticed 3 lights in the north-east sky; one of these lights moved closer and was 150m above the lake and less than 1k distant. A huge beam of light came from the UFO shining down on the lake below. The beam moved around as if searching for something. The beam disappeared leaving a blue-white phosphorence hanging 10m above the lake. The UFO departed in a flash like a tracer bullet crossing the sky. During the sighting the witnesses' car radio emitted an intense static noise. During the same time period other sightings were reported to the Centre from the Lake Country.

February 4, 1979. Lawitta

This was an evening Mr X would not want to repeat. He was apprehended in Hobart driving without any car lights on. He told Police he could not remember where he was or had been.

Subsequent investigation ascertained he had encountered a mass of bright light on the road at Lawitta over 50k distant. He recalled his car radio failing, and then the motor cut out as a white light enveloped the car.

Mr X's friends took him to Hospital as he was in a dazed condition, it was only when a bright light was shone into his eyes that he started to

recall the events. Mr X was still tired some days after the event when interviewed by the Centre. His car required a new battery and wiring to the headlights needed replacing.

August 20, 1979. Hatfield River

A number of sightings came from Tasmania's West Coast but the sighting on the Murchison Highway was of extra interest.

Our witness was travelling from Queenstown to the North West Coast. The interior of her car was lit up by a green light, at the same time a large green light appeared behind her car. She now found that her car would not go beyond 50kph. Breaking and changing gears failed to alter the car's speed. After 8 to 10 k the light disappeared and the car operation returned to normal. Both her wrist watch and car clock had stopped at the commencement of the sighting. Both the car and clocks worked correctly following the sighting.

July 6, 1982. Highclere.

A lone motorist travelling home near Hampshire found his car suddenly losing power. He rolled to a stop and got out to check the engine. He then noticed the roadside wire fence was giving off sparks. He then realised there was an object above the roadside paddock, it looked cigar like except one end was tapered. The object turned to reveal an orange glow at the rear as it looked to move away into the western sky.

The witness felt a bit disturbed by the incident and hurried back to his

car which started at once. The car performed as normal following the sighting. A visit by the Centre's representative failed to uncover any traces.

TASMANIA'S BEST Contd:

He quickly returned home and contacted his friend Moulton at nearby New Norfolk. Moulton and his son were able to view the area of light as they drove to the farm. The witnesses then watched for over an hour as the light mass moved away into the northern sky and out of sight into cloud cover. Subsequent publicity and investigation by the Centre uncovered a number of other witnesses to the event.

The multi-witness sighting gave supporting evidence to the initial report. The sighting was also investigated within hours of the event.

May 27, 1974. Boobyalla. A chance remark to a member about a possible sighting at Gladstone in Tasmania's far north-east uncovered a 'gold mine' of UFO classic cases.

The residents at Boobyalla estate in the same week witnessed the initial appearance of a bright golden banana shaped object that haunted the area during the winter months. The object was seen at low level moving slowly over the paddocks before disappearing into a nearby valley. Further sightings followed with shooters followed by a string of lights, motorists encountered UFOs on the road to Gladstone as other nocturnal light cases persisted.

September 16, 1974. Priory. The north-east flap climaxed in September with two Close Encounter cases in the same week. In the first sighting a mother was returning home with her children on a road north of St Helens. Their car radio cut out then the sky was lit up by a bright light mass. The car now lost power and everything went dead. A deafening vibrating noise then seemed to envelope the car and all felt electric shocks. As if this was not enough a choking smell filled the car. The mother and children fled from the stationary car to a nearby residence. The resident returned with the witness to the car which started at once and following a subsequent check had nothing wrong.

The mother suffered from swollen arms and fingers the following day. She also a red mark above her right eye, and a numb face on the right side.

September 22, 1974. Tayene.

Just six days later another close encounter with a UFO near Tayene in the state's north-east. The witness was parked by the side of the road one late afternoon waiting for a friend. The car radio gave a piercing sound and as the witness leaned over to turn the radio off she saw an object approaching from the passenger's side. A brilliant dome shaped object with a grey base took up a position only 30m away just above the road. The witness understandably attempted to drive away but only bogged the car at the side of the road. The object at this

point moved away over the valley and then rose vertically into the clouds. The case was investigated by the RAAF and TUFOIC.

SIGHTINGS CONTINUED

Almost as if in response to his move the object commenced a movement away from the ship's stern. The witness managed to film the light but not before it was well away in the north-west again at a low angle of 15 degrees in the sky. The light continued to shrink until it was out of sight. The witness had several minutes of film and caught sight of the same or similar light for a few more seconds in the far distance.

The witness went to Southern Cross TV (Launceston) on arrival to check out the video but it only revealed a small light on a dark screen. Later on returning home to Victoria he was able to look at the video frame by frame. The frames now showed a distant line of lights. It was suggested by the crew that he had seen Spirit Two. However, the film was taken before the vessels passed, and the close approach was of an object approaching from the opposite direction to Spirit Two. The case remains unexplained.

2006 January 31st. 11.45pm. Sisters Creek.

Things were looking good for the year ahead when following the Bass Strait sighting a car pace event was reported to the Centre from North West Tasmania. The sighting took

place on the highway near Sisters Creek.

The witness and her partner were returning home after visiting friends and were travelling west on the Bass Highway. Initially some lights were noticed to the northern side of the highway. A large red light could be seen this flashed randomly then changed to blue at different times. Also there were three lights at other times in a triangle formation, red on the right, blue on the left and an occasional red light below.

Eventually the witnesses stopped the car, wound down the windows, and tried to locate an explanation for the lights. No noise was noticed nor explanation apparent. The witnesses drove on but the lights were not visible any more.

Soon after they approached the turn off to their home situated a short distance from the highway. At first a blue light was seen to the south of the highway, then as they turned the corner it was to their right (west) and appearing as a large red light low over the ploughed paddock. The light seemed low and close as it bathed the ground in a red glow. This new light maintained station with them for a couple of kilometres before just turning off.

The area covered by the lights when first seen would maybe two full moons wide. The lights were low and obscured a few times by roadside buildings. Distance was hard to gauge but at the intersection the red light was maybe only 50 to 100m distant.

Local enquiries failed to reveal a possible explanation for the lights, there being no aircraft moves, astronomical causes etc: to account for the sighting.

SIGHTINGS CONTINUED

The publicity on the Sisters Creek event in the Burnie Advocate brought forth one other report later on the same night during the early hours of February 1st from Wynyard.

Our witness did not sleep very well and was often up in the early hours to make a drink. Glancing out the window facing the eastern sky the witness briefly viewed a puzzling shape.

Well up in the sky was an amber coloured object, it looked like a curved banana, much the same size as ¼ moon. As the witness watched the object seemed to fade from view with the colour disappearing from the base upwards. After some 30 seconds there was nothing visible. Once again there was no air traffic in the area and the moon had yet to rise.

2006 February 6th. 5.00am. Riverside

Our following cases both occurred in Launceston in the suburb of Riverside. The witness was up early as usual on a fine February morning. To the east but fairly high in the sky she saw what looked like aeroplane lights. There were four bright lights travelling north-west. At first this did not look unusual but then two other lights were noticed, one ahead and the other slightly behind all moving at the same speed. The witness went

to call her husband but by the time they looked out again there was nothing to be seen. The Centre contacted Launceston Airport but

there were no known aircraft in the area at the time of the sighting, satellites and astronomical explanations were also ruled out.

2006 April 23rd. 10.30pm Trevallyn.

Barking dogs alerted the witnesses to a red moving light in the north-western sky. The witness raced inside to obtain his binoculars for a better look. The binoculars failed to reveal anything extra but the light was coming closer in an erratic fashion. It lost elevation and dropped towards the clearing for the power lines from Trevallyn Power Station. The light was lost from site behind a tree in the clearing about 300m distant. Almost at once three elongated dull yellow lights could be seen near or at ground level in front of the tree. More family members by now had also viewed the mystery lights.

No one could work out what they were looking at; the lights were estimated as covering about 8-10m in width. Briefly beams of light were seen emanating from the yellow lights.

After some 15 minutes the silent lights seemed to fade away and despite keeping a check on the area were not seen again.

A visit in daylight revealed nothing. Follow up by the Centre with Power authorities failed to uncover any

works in the area. Police advised they had received no calls about the lights nor had the local media.

TOP TASMANIAN CASES

Selecting Tasmania's best UFO sightings is no easy matter. Over the years there have been a great many UFO sightings of interest. However, what makes for a 'best' sighting. Is it the close encounter, a mysterious incident, a well investigated report, one with many witnesses? Probably it is a bit of all these attributes.

Many strange cases have come to our attention but some parameters must be set. The UFO reports must have a high investigation component, a high probability that events occurred as described by the witnesses, there was not a time delay in reporting the event and from the details obtained there is no ready explanation.

Sightings are listed in chronological order.

October 4, 1960. Cressy. Arguably one of the states's best know UFO cases. Investigated by the RAAF, covered widely in the media, plus questions were asked in the Australian Federal Parliament concerning the case.

The Reverend Lionel Browning and his wife were admiring sunset on rain clouds to the east late one afternoon. Much to their surprise a cigar object emerged from the clouds moving into the clear sky. Almost at once a number of small disc like objects also appeared out of the

clouds to take up position near the cigar. The whole group then looked to move back into the original clouds and were lost from view.

Reverend Browning contacted Launceston Airport but no air traffic was in the area at the time of the sighting. Subsequently the RAAF conducted an investigation into the event and concluded the Brownings had seen the rising moon reflecting on scud cloud.

Reverend Browning pointed out the eastern sky was covered in the cloud from the recent rain and any moon would have had to compete with the bright sunshine in the western sky. A number of other UFO sightings were reported in the Cressy area in the following weeks. Investigator Bill Chalker uncovered a report in the RAAF files from November of that year. A high flying United States Air Force aircraft over the nearby Tamar Valley reported an object passing beneath their aircraft. No explanation was forthcoming for the event.

December 7, 1971 Lachlan. The Mercury journalist at New Norfolk D R Moulton, was one of a number of witnesses to this lengthy sighting. A Lachlan farmer who was out late irrigating his crops was surprised to see some lights approaching from the north. A bright round area of light with a separate flashing light looked like a helicopter was going to crash in his paddock. As he ran for cover the object receded up into the sky.

**Know of a sighting, ring
TUFOIC on 03 62236009**